

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are now pending in the application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Asakura et al (US 6,806,938). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1, 7, and 11 call for a liquid crystal device or a method for driving a liquid crystal device including a plurality of first electrodes on a first substrate and wiring lines on a second substrate, the wiring lines each corresponding to one of the first electrodes and being connected to the corresponding first electrodes. Claims 1, 7, and 11 recite that each wiring line intersects at least one first electrode other than the corresponding first electrode and that the wiring lines form cross sections with the at least one first electrodes other than the corresponding first electrodes. Claims 1, 7, and 11 have been amended to recite that the wiring lines form the cross sections in a display area surrounded by the inside edges of the sealing material. Claims 1, 7, and 11 further call for each of the first wiring lines to be supplied with a first voltage when selected and a second voltage when not selected. Furthermore, claims 1, 7, and 11 each also call for a first effective value of a voltage applied to the liquid crystals at the cross sections to be smaller than a second effective value of a voltage applied to a pixel for turning on the pixel.

Applicants submit that Asakura et al. do not disclose all of the features of claims 1, 7, and 11. For example, Applicants submit that Asakura et al. do not disclose a device in which the cross sections are located within the display area where the display area is defined by the entire area inside the sealing material. (Paragraph [0006] states “the area outside the sealing material does not contribute to display,” thus, the area inside the sealing material contributes to display.)

In contrast to the claimed invention, Asakura et al. disclose that all of the wirings 5 are disposed outside of the display area 3 (see, e.g., Figures 2, 4, and 8) and more particularly, “between a side portion of the seal member 7 and the display area 3” (Claim 1). Accordingly, Applicants submit that Asakura et al. do not disclose a liquid crystal display device having cross sections as specifically recited in claims 1, 7, and 11 of the present application. Therefore, for at least these reasons, Applicants submit that claims 1, 7, and 11 are not anticipated by Asakura et al.

Furthermore, as Asakura et al. do not disclose cross sections as specifically recited in claims 1, 7, and 11 of the present application, Applicants submit that Asakura et al. do not inherently teach applying a voltage to such cross sections as specifically recited in claims 1, 7, and 11. More particularly, Asakura et al. do not disclose applying an effective voltage at a cross section smaller than an effective voltage for turning on a pixel as specifically recited in claims 1, 7, and 11. The Examiner alleges that Asakura et al. inherently teach this feature as it would be required for Asakura to work properly. However, all of the wirings 5 of Asakura et al. are disposed outside of the display area 3 (see, e.g., Figures 2, 4, and 8). As such, Applicants submit that any cross section with the wirings 5 would be outside of the display area 3, and thus Asakura et al. '938 would

not have to specifically control the voltages at these areas as claimed in the present application to work properly.

Claims 3, 4, 6, and 9 depend on one of claims 1 and 7 and, therefore, for at least the same reasons stated herein, should also be patentable. Applicants, therefore, respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 2 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Asakura et al. in view of Nomura et al. (US 6,236,385). Claim 5 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Asakura et al. in view of Morimoto et al. (US 6,181,406). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Applicants respectfully refer the Examiner to the remarks above regarding the Asukara reference as discussed with regard to claims 1, 7, and 11. Claims 2 and 8 depend on one of claims 1 and 7 and, therefore, for at least the same reasons stated above, should also be patentable. Furthermore, Nomura et al. and Morimoto et al. fail to show, teach, or suggest a device in which the cross sections are located within a display area. Therefore, a combination of the teachings of any of the references would still fail to show, teach, or suggest a device in which the cross sections are located within a display area. Applicants, therefore, respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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